

## LETTERS and PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

### PRESENTS received by WARREN HASTINGS, Esquire.

*COPY of a Letter from the Governor General to the Court of Directors.*

To the Honourable the Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

Fort William, 29th November, 1780.

YOU will be informed, by our Consultations of the 26th of June, of a very unusual Tender, which was made by me to the Board on that Day, for the Purpose of indemnifying the Company for the extraordinary Expence which might be incurred by supplying the Detachment under the Command of Major Camac, in the Invasion of the Maratta Dominions which lay beyond the District of Gohed, and drawing the Attention of Mahdajee Sindia, to whom that Country immediately appertained, from General Goddard; while, his was employed in the Reduction of Bassein, and in securing the Conquests made by your Arms in Guzerat. — I was desirous to remove the only Objection which has been or could be ostensibly made to the Measure, which I had very much at Heart, as may be easily conceived from the Means which I took to effect it. — For the Reasons at large which induced me to propose that Diversion, it will be sufficient to refer to my Minute, recommending it, and to the Letters received from General Goddard, near the same Period of Time. The Subject is now become obsolete, and all the fair Hopes which I had built upon the Prosecution of the Maratta War, of its Termination in a speedy, honourable, and advantageous Peace, have been blasted by the dreadful Calamities which have befallen your Arms, in the Dependencies of your Presidency of Fort St. George; and changed the Object of our Pursuit, from the Aggrandizement of your Power to its Preservation. My present Reasons for reverting to my own Conduct on the Occasion which I have mentioned, is to obviate the false Conclusions, or purposed Misrepresentations, which may be made of it, either as an Artifice of Ostentation, or as the Effect of corrupt Influence, by assuring you, that the Money, by whatever Means it came into your Possession, was not my own; that I had myself no Right to it, nor would or could have received it, but for the Occasion which prompted me to avail myself of the accidental Means which were at that Instant afforded me, of accepting and converting it to the Property and Use of the Company: And with this brief Apology I shall dismiss the Subject.

Something of Affinity to this Anecdote, may appear in the first Aspect of another Transaction, which I shall proceed to relate, and of which it is more immediately my Duty to inform you:—You will have been advised, by repeated Addresses of this Government, of the Arrival of an Army at Cutch, under the Command of Chimnaje Boosla, the Second Son of Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar.

The Origin and Destination of this Force have been largely explained and detailed in the Correspondence of the Government of Berar, and in various Parts of our Consultations. The minute Relation of these would exceed the Bounds of a Letter; I shall therefore confine myself to the principal Fact:—About the Middle of the last Year, a Plan of Confederacy was formed by the Nabob Nizam Ally Camp, by which it was proposed, that while the Army of the Marattas, under the Command of

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Mahdajee Sindia and Tuckoojee Hoolkar, was employed to check the Operations of General Goddard in the West of India, Hyder Ally Cawn should invade the Carnatic; Moodajee Boosla, the Provinces of Bengal; and he himself the Sircars of Rajamundry and Chicacole.

The Government of Berar was required to accept the Part assigned it in this Combination; and to march a large Body of Troops immediately into Bengal. To enforce the Request on the Part of the ruling Member of the Maratta State, Menaces of instant Hostility, by the combined Forces were added, by Mahdajee Sindia, Tuckoojee Hoolkar, and Nizam Ally Cawn, in Letters written by them to Moodajee Boosla, on the Occasion. He was not in a State to sustain the Brunt of so formidable a League; and ostensibly yielded. Such at least was the Turn which he gave to his Acquiescence in his Letters to me; and his subsequent Conduct has justified his Professions. I was early and progressively acquainted by him with the Requisition, and with the Measures which were intended to be taken, and which were taken, by him upon it. The Army professedly destined for Bengal marched on the Duffera of the last Year, corresponding with the 7th of October. Instead of taking the direct Course to Behar, which has been prescribed, it proceeded, by varied Deviations and studied Delays, to Cuttac, where it arrived late in May last, having performed a practicable Journey of Three Months in Seven; and concluded it at the instant Commencement of the Rains, which of course would preclude its Operations, and afford the Government of Berar a further Interval of Five Months to provide for the Part which it would then be compelled to chuse. In the mean Time Letters were continually written, by the Rajah and his Minister, to this Government, explanatory of their Situation and Motives; proposing their Mediation and Guarantee for a Peace and Alliance with the Peshwa; and professing, without Solicitation on our Part, the most friendly Disposition towards us, and the most determined Resolution to maintain it.

Conformably to these Assurances, and the Acceptance of a Proposal made by Moodajee Boosla, to depute his Minister to Bengal, for the Purpose of negotiating and concluding the proposed Treaty of Peace, Application had been made to the Peshwa, for Credentials to the same Effect.—In the mean Time the fatal News arrived of the Defeat of your Army at Conjeveram. It now became necessary that every other Object should give Place, or be made subservient, to the Preservation of the Carnatic; nor would the Measures requisite for that End admit an Instant of Delay. Peace with the Marattas was the first Object; to conciliate their Alliance, and that of every other Power in natural Enmity with Hyder Ally, the next.—Instant Measures were taken (as our general Advices will inform you) to secure both these Points, and to employ the Government of Berar as the Channel and Instrument of accomplishing them. Its Army still lay on our Borders, and in Distress for a long Arrear of Pay; not less occasioned by the Want of pecuniary Funds, than a Stoppage of Communication. An Application had been made to us for a Supply of Money; and the Sum specified for the complete Relief of the Army was Sixteen Lacks. We had neither Money to spare, nor, in the apparent State of that Government in its Relation to ours, would it have been either prudent, or consistent with our public Credit, to have afforded it. It was, nevertheless, my decided Opinion, that some Aid should be given; not less as a necessary Relief, than as an Indication of Confidence, and a Return for the many Instances of substantial Kindness which we had, within the Course of the last Two Years, experienced from the Government of Berar. I had an Assurance that such a Proposal would receive the Acquiescence of the Board; but I knew that it would not pass without Opposition, and it would have become public, which might have defeated its Purpose. Convinced of the Necessity of the Expedient, and assured of the Sincerity of the Government of Berar, from Evidences of stronger Proof to me than I could make them appear to the other Members of the Board, I resolved to adopt it, and take the entire Responsibility of it upon myself. In this Mode, a less considerable Sum would suffice: I accordingly caused Three Lacks of Rupees to be delivered to the Minister of the Rajah of Berar resident in Calcutta: He has transmitted it to Cuttac.—Two Thirds of this Sum I have raised by my own Credit, and shall charge it in my Official Accounts: The other Third I have supplied from the Cash in my Hands, belonging to the Honourable Company. I have given due Notice to Moodajee Boosla of this Transaction, and explained it to have been a private Act of my own, unknown to the other Members of the Council. I have given him Expectations of the Remainder of the Amount required for the Arrears of his Army, proportioned to the Extent to which he may put it in my Power to propose it as a public Gracuity, by his effectual Orders for the Recall of these Troops, or for their Junction with ours.

I hope I shall receive your Approbation of what I have done for your Service, and your Indulgence for the Length of this Narrative, which I could not comprize within a narrower Compass.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful, obedient,

and humble Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.

EXTRACT



*EXTRACT of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated the 25th January 1782.*

Par. 127. We have received a Letter from our Governor General, dated the 29th of November 1780, relative to an unusual Tender and Advance of Money, made by him to the Council, as entered on your Consultation of the 26th of June, for the Purpose of indemnifying the Company from the extraordinary Charge which might be incurred by supplying the Detachment under the Command of Major Camac, in the Invasion of the Maratta Dominions which lay beyond the District of Gohud; and thereby drawing the Attention of Mhadjee Scindia (to whom the Country appertained) from General Goddard, while the General was employed in the Reduction of Bassein, and in securing the Conquests made in the Guzerat Country; and also respecting the Sum of Three Lacks of Rupees, advanced by the Governor General for the Use of the Army under the Command of Chimnaje Boolla, without the Authority or Knowledge of the Council; with the Reasons for taking these extraordinary Steps, under the Circumstances stated in his Letter.

128. In regard to the first of these Transactions, we readily conceive, that in the then State of the Council, the Governor General might be induced to temporary Secrecy respecting the Members of the Board, not only because he might be apprehensive of Opposition to the proposed Application of the Money; but, perhaps, because Doubts might have arisen concerning the Propriety of appropriating it to the Company's Use, on any Account: But it does *not appear to us*, that there could be any real Necessity for delaying to communicate to us immediate Information of the Channel by which the Money came into his Possession, with a complete Illustration of the Cause or Causes of so extraordinary an Event.

129. Circumstanced as Affairs were at the Moment, it appears, that the Governor General had the Measure much at Heart, and judged it absolutely necessary. The Means proposed of defraying the extra Expence were very extraordinary; and the Money, as we conceive, must have come into his Hands by an unusual Channel: And when more complete Information comes before us, we shall give our Sentiments fully upon the whole Transaction.

130. In regard to the Application of the Company's Money to the Army of Chimnaje Boolla, by the sole Authority of the Governor General, he knew that it was entirely at his own Risk, and he has taken the Responsibility upon himself; nothing but the most urgent Necessity could warrant the Measure; nor can any Thing short of full Proof of such Necessity, and of the Propriety and Utility of the extraordinary Step taken on the Occasion, entitle the Governor General to the Approbation of the Court of Directors: And therefore, as in the former Instance relative to the Sum advanced and paid into our Treasury, we must also, for the present, *suspend* our Judgment respecting the Money sent to the Berar Army; without approving it in the least Degree, or proceeding to censure our Governor General for this Transaction.

*To the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors.*

Honourable Sirs,

Patna, 20th January 1782.

While the Nabob Vizier was at Chunar, an Offer of a very considerable Sum of Money was made to me, both on his Part and that of his Ministers, as a Present to myself: I accepted it without Hesitation, and gladly, being entirely destitute both of Means and Credit, whether for your Service or the Relief of my own Necessities. This Donation was not made in Specie, but in Bills, which have been in Part only and tardily realized, being drawn on the House of Gopaul Doss, who was at the Time a Prisoner in the Hands of Cheit Sing. The Remainder is in course of Payment, and I make no Doubt of its being paid. What I have received has been laid out on the public Service; the rest shall be applied to the same Account: The nominal Sum is Ten Lacks of Rupees, of the Currency of Oude. As soon as the Whole is completed, I will transmit to you a faithful Account of it, resigning the Disposal of it entirely to the Pleasure of your Honourable Court: If you shall adjudge the Deposit to me, I shall consider it as the most honourable Approbation and Reward of my Labour; and I wish to owe my Fortune to your Bounty.

I am now in the 50th Year of my Life. I have passed Thirty-one Years in the Service of the Company, and the greatest Part of that Time in Employments of the highest Trust. My Conscience allows me boldly to claim the Merit of Zeal and Integrity; nor has Fortune been unpropitious to their Exertions. To these Qualities I bound my Pretensions. I shall not repine, if you shall deem other-  
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quate to the Consequence and Elevation of the Office which I now possess, to lessen my Gratitude having been so long permitted to hold it; since it has at least enabled me to lay up a Provision, with which I can be contented in a more humble Station.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful, most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.

*EXTRACT of the Company's General Letter to Bengal, dated the 15th January 1782*

Par. 54. We have received a Letter from our Governor General, dated Patna 20th January 1782, representing, that while the Nabob Vizier was at Chunar, an Offer of a very considerable Sum of Money was made to him, both on the Part of the Nabob and on that of his Ministers, as a Present, which he accepted without Hesitation, being entirely destitute both of Means and Credit, whether for our Service, or the Relief of his own Necessities; the nominal Sum said to be received, and in Course of Payment, amounts, as the Governor General has informed us, to Ten Lacks of Rupees of the Currency of Oude. It is further stated, that what has been already received has been laid out on the public Service, and that the rest is to be applied to the same Account, and that as soon as the Whole is completed, he will transmit to us a faithful Account thereof.

55. The Governor General has submitted to our Consideration, whether we will adjudge this Deposit to him; but as the Act of Parliament, by which the Governor General and Council were appointed, directs, "That the Salaries to be allowed to the said Governor General and Council, as therein mentioned, shall be in lieu of all Fees of Office, Perquisites, Emoluments, and Advantages whatsoever; and that no Fees of Office, Perquisites, Emoluments, or Advantages whatsoever, shall be accepted, received, or taken by such Governor General and Council, or any of them, in any Manner, or on any Account or Pretence whatsoever:" And the same Act further directs, "That no Governor General, or any of the Council, shall directly or indirectly accept, receive, or take, of or from any Person or Persons, in any Manner or on any Account whatsoever, any Present, Gift, Donation, Gratuity, or Reward, pecuniary or otherwise, or any Promise or Engagement for any Present, Gift, Donation, Gratuity, or Reward:" We cannot, were we so inclined, decree the Amount of this Present to the Governor General. And as it is further enacted, "That any such Present, Gift, Gratuity, Donation, or Reward, accepted, taken, or received, shall be deemed and construed to have been received to and for the sole Use of the Company;" we approve of the Intentions of the Governor General to appropriate the Whole of this Sum to the public Service, and direct that he do strictly abide by the Act of Parliament in this Case made and provided.



To the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors.

Honourable Sirs,

Fort William, 22d May 1782.

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In a Letter which I have had the Honour to address you in Duplicate, and of which a Triplicate accompanies this, dated 20th January 1782, I informed you that I had received the Offer of a Sum of Money from the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers, to the nominal Amount of Ten Lacks of Lucknow Siccas; and that Bills on the House of Gopaul Doss had been actually given me for the Amount, which I had accepted for the Use of the Honourable Company; and I promised to account with you for the same as soon as it should be in my Power, after the whole Sum had come into my Possession. This Promise I now perform, and, deeming it consistent with the Spirit of it, I have added such other Sums as have been occasionally converted to the Company's Property through my Means, and in consequence of the like original Destination. Of the Second of these you have been already advised, in a Letter which I had the Honour to address the Honourable Court of Directors, dated 29th November 1780. Both this and the Third Article were paid immediately to the Treasury, by my Order to the Sub-Treasurer to receive them on the Company's Account, but never passed through my Hands. The Three Sums, for which Bonds were granted, were in like Manner paid to the Company's Treasury, without passing through my Hands; but their Appropriation was not specified.

The Sum of 58,000 Current Rupees was received while I was on my Journey to Benares, and applied as expressed in the Account.

As to the Manner in which these Sums have been expended, the Reference which I have made of it, in the accompanying Account, to the several Accounts in which they are credited, renders any other Specification of it unnecessary; besides that those Accounts either have or will have received a much stronger Authentication than any that I could give to mine.

Why these Sums were taken by me; why they were, except the Second, quietly transferred to the Company's Use; why Bonds were taken for the First, and not for the rest; might, were this Matter to be exposed to the View of the Public, furnish a Variety of Conjectures, to which it would be of little Use to reply. Were your Honourable Court to question me upon these Points, I would answer, That the Sums were taken for the Company's Benefit, at Times in which the Company very much needed them; that I either chose to conceal the first Receipts from public Curiosity, by receiving Bonds for the Amount; or possibly acted without any studied Design which my Memory could at this Distance of Time verify; and that I did not think it worth my Care to observe the same Means with the rest. I trust, Honourable Sirs, to your Breasts for a candid Interpretation of my Actions, and assume the Freedom to add, that I think myself, on such a Subject, and on such an Occasion, entitled to it.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful, most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.



*An ACCOUNT of Sums received on the Account of the Honourable Company, by the Governor General, or paid to their Treasury by his Order, and applied to their Service.*

1780. October.	The following Sums were paid into the Treasury, and Bonds granted for the same, in the Name of the Governor General, in whose Possession the Bonds remain, with a Declaration upon each, endorsed and signed by him, that he has no Claim on the Company for the Amount either of Principal or Interest, no Part of the latter having been received:	
	One Bond, dated the 1st October 1780, N <sup>o</sup> 1539, 1,16,000 — —	
	One — — — — — N <sup>o</sup> 1540, 1,16,000 — —	
	One — — — 23 November, N <sup>o</sup> 1354, 1,74,000 — —	
		4,06,000 —
2 November.	Paid into the Treasury, and carried to the Governor General's Credit in the 12th Page of the Deposits Journal of 1780-81, Mohrs of Sorts which had been coined in the Mint, and produced, as per 358 and 359 Pages of the Company's General Journal of 1780-81, Gold Mohrs 12,861 12 11, or Calcutta Siccas — — — 2,05,788 14 9 Batta 16 per Cent. — — — 32,526 3 6	2,38,715 1
3 1781. 30 April.	Paid into the Treasury, and credited in the 637th Page of the Company's General Journal, as Money received from the Governor General, on Account of Durbar Charges — — — Sicca Rup <sup>s</sup> 2,00,000 — — Batta 16 per Cent. — — — 32,000 — —	2,32,000 —
4 August.	Received in Cash, and employed in defraying my public Disbursements, and credited in the Governor General's Account of Durbar Charges for April 1782 — — —	58,000 —
5	Produce of the Sum mentioned in the Governor General's Letter to the Honourable Secret Committee, dated 20th January 1782, and credited in the Governor General's Account of Durbar Charges for April 1782 — — —	10,30,275 1
	Current Rupees — — —	19,64,990 3

Fort William,  
22d May 1782.

(Errors excepted.)

WARREN HASTINGS.

I William Larkins do make Oath, and say, That the Letter and Account to which this Affidavit is affixed, were written by me, at the Request of the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, on the 22d May 1782, from rough Drafts written by himself in my Presence: That the Cover of the Letter was sealed up by him in my Presence, and was then intended to have been transmitted to England by the Lively, when that Vessel was first ordered for Dispatch; and that it has remained closed until the Day, when it was opened, for the express Purpose of being accompanied by this Affidavit.

Calcutta,  
16th December 1782.

So help me God.

WILLIAM LARKINS.

Sworn this 16th Day of December 1782, before me,

J. Hyde.



To the Honourable the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors.

Honourable Sirs,

Fort William, 16th December 1782.

The Dispatch of the Lively having been protracted, by various Causes, from Time to Time, the accompanying Address, which was originally designed and prepared for that Dispatch (no other Conveyance since occurring) has of course been thus long detained. The Delay is of no public Consequence; but it has produced a Situation which, with respect to myself, I regard as unfortunate, because it exposes me to the meanest Imputation, from the Occasion which the late Parliamentary Enquiries have since furnished, but which were unknown when my Letter was written, and written in the necessary Consequence of a Promise, made to that Effect in a former Letter to your Honourable Committee, dated 20th January last. However, to preclude the Possibility of such Reflections from affecting me, I have desired Mr. Larkins, who was privy to the whole Transaction, to affix to the Letter his Affidavit of the Date in which it was written. I own I feel most sensibly the Mortification of being reduced to the Necessity of using such Precautions to guard my Reputation from Dishonour. If I had, at any Time, possessed that Degree of Confidence from my immediate Employers, which they never withheld from the meanest of my Predecessors, I should have disdained to use these Attentions: How I have drawn on me a different Treatment I know not; it is sufficient that I have not merited it: And in the Course of a Service of Thirty-two Years, and Ten of these employed in maintaining the Powers and discharging the Duties of the First Office of the British Government in India, that Honourable Court ought to know whether I possess the Integrity and Honour which are the first Requisites of such a Station. If I wanted these, they have afforded me but too powerful Incentives to suppress the Information which I now convey to them through you; and to appropriate to my own Use the Sums which I have already passed to their Credit, by the unworthy, and, pardon me if I add dangerous, Reflections which they have passed upon me, for the first Communication of this Kind; and your own Experience will suggest to you, that there are Persons who would profit by such a Warning.

Upon the Whole of these Transactions, which to you, who are accustomed to view Business in an Official and regular Light, may appear unprecedented, if not improper, I have but a few short Remarks to suggest to your Consideration.

If I appear in any unfavourable Light by these Transactions, I resign the common and legal Security of those who commit Crimes or Errors. I am ready to answer every particular Question that may be put against myself, upon Honour, or upon Oath.

The Sources from which these Reliefs to the public Service have come, would never have yielded them to the Company publicly; and the Exigencies of your Service (Exigencies created by the Exposition of your Affairs, and Faction in your Councils) required those Supplies.

I could have concealed them, had I had a wrong Motive, from yours and the public Eye for ever; and I know that the Difficulties to which a Spirit of Injustice may subject me, for my Candour and Avowal, are greater than any possible Inconvenience that could have attended the Concealment, except the Dissatisfaction of my own Mind. These Difficulties are but a few of those which I have suffered in your Service. The Applause of my own Breast is my surest Reward, and was the Support of my Mind in meeting them: Your Applause, and that of my Country, are my next Wish in Life.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful, most obedient,

and most humble Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.



*To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East India Company.*

Honourable Sirs,

On the River Ganges, 21st February, 1784.

Having had Occasion to disburse from my own Cash many Sums, for Services which, though required to enable me to execute the Duties of my Station, I have hitherto omitted to enter in my public Accounts, and my own Fortune being unequal to so heavy a Charge, I have resolved to reimburse myself in a Mode the most suitable to the Situation of your Affairs, by charging the same on my Durbar-Accounts of the present Year, and crediting them by a Sum privately received, and appropriated to your Service in the same Manner with other Sums received on Account of the Honourable Company, and already carried to their Account.

The Particulars of these Disbursements are contained in the inclosed Accounts, N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3, and 4, of which N<sup>o</sup> 5 is the Abstract.

I shall subjoin a Brief Explanation of each.

The Sum of the Account N<sup>o</sup> 1 is the Difference between the Allowance of 300 Rupees a Month, which was the customary Pay of the Governor's Military Secretary, and that which I allowed to Lieutenant Colonel Ironside during the Time that he acted in that Capacity, on Account of his superior Rank. It was referred to your Honourable Court in one of the General Letters of the Year 1773 or 4; but I presume that it was overlooked, in the Pressure of other more important Matters which at that Time occupied your Attention.

N<sup>o</sup> 2, and 3, are explained in the Accounts themselves.

N<sup>o</sup> 4 consists of Three several Kinds of Charges, which I confess to have been unauthorized, but which I humbly conceive neither to be of a private Nature, nor unworthy Subjects of the Bounty of a great and rising State.—The First is inconsiderable, consisting chiefly in the Subsistence of the Pundits, who were assembled in Calcutta, and employed during Two Years in compiling the Code of Hindoo Laws for your Use. The Sum allotted to them was, as I recollect, One Rupee per Diem; a larger Recompence was offered, but refused; nor would they receive this, but for their Daily Support: They had indeed the Promise of some public Endowments for their Colleges, which yet remain unperformed.—The Second, is the Amount of sundry Monthly Salaries paid to some of the most learned Professors of the Mahomedan Law, for translating, from the Arabic into the Persian Tongue, a Compendium of their Law, called the Hedaya, which is held in high Estimation, and Part of a more voluminous Work, which I could not prosecute. Your Honourable Court is in Possession of a Part of the English Version of Hedaya, made by Mr. James Anderson, and a subsequent Part of the same Work has been lately translated by Mr. Hamilton. These Gentlemen are both engaged in the Completion of it, and are both eminently qualified for it. It would exceed the due Bounds of this Letter, to expatiate on the Utility of this Work; yet I may be allowed to vindicate the Expence of it by One summary Argument, which is, that while the Mahomedan Law is allowed to be the Standard of the Criminal Jurisprudence of your Dominion, under the Controul and Inspection of your English Servants, it seems indispensably necessary that the Judges of the Courts should have a more familiar Guide for their Proceedings than the Books of the Arabic Tongue, of which few have Opportunities of attaining a competent Knowledge; and as necessary that your Servants should possess the Means of consulting the Principles on which those Judgments are founded, which, in their ultimate Resort, and in extraordinary Cases, may fall within their immediate Cognizance, and of the Laws of which they are the Protectors.—The Third Charge, is that of an Academy, instituted for the Study of the different Branches of the Sciences taught in the Mahomedan Schools. After a Trial of about Two Years, finding that it was likely to answer the End of its Institution, I recommended to the Board, and obtained their Consent, to pass the subsequent Expence of the Establishment to the Account of the Company, and to erect a Building for the Purpose at my own immediate Cost, but for a Company's Interest Note granted me for the Reimbursement of it. It is almost the only complete Establishment of the Kind now existing in India, although they were once in universal Use, and the decayed Remains of these Schools are yet to be seen in every capital Town or City of Hindostan and Decan. It has contributed to extend the Credit of the English Name, and to soften the Prejudices excited by the rapid Growth of the British Dominion; and it is a Seminary of the most useful Members of Society.

I humbly submit the Propriety of carrying these Expences to your Account, by the Consideration, that it was not possible for me to have been influenced, in incurring them, by any Purpose of my own Interest. Something, perhaps, may be attributed to the Impulse of Pride, in the Share which I might hope to derive of a public Benefaction; but certainly not to Vanity or Ostentation, since I believe it to be generally conceived, that the whole Expence, of which the greatest Part is yet my own, has been already defrayed from the Treasury of the Company.

I will candidly confess, that when I first engaged, both in this and the preceding Expence, I had no Intention of carrying it to the Account of the Company. Improvident for myself, zealous for the Honour of my Country, and the Credit and Interest of my Employers, I seldom permitted my Prospects of Futurity to enter into the View of my private Concerns. In the undisturbed Exercise of the

Faculties



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Faculties which appertained to the active Season of my Life, I confined all my Regards to my public Character, and reckoned on a Fund of Years to come for its Duration. The Infirmities of Life have since succeeded, and I have lately received more than One severe Warning to retire from a Scene to which my bodily Strength is no longer equal, and threatens me with a corresponding Decay in whatever Powers of Mind I once possessed, to discharge the laborious Duties and hard Vicissitudes of my Station. With this Change in my Condition, I am compelled to depart from that liberal Plan which I originally adopted, and to claim from your Justice, for you have forbid me to appeal to your Generosity, the Discharge of a Debt which I can, with the most scrupulous Integrity, aver to be justly my Due, and which I cannot sustain.

If it should be objected, that the Allowance of these Demands would furnish a Precedent for others of the like Kind, I have to remark, that in their whole Amount they are but the Aggregate of a contingent Account of Twelve Years; and if it were to become the Practice of those who have passed their Prime of Life in your Service, and filled, as I have filled it, the first Office of your Dominion, to glean from their past Accounts all the Articles of Expence which their Inaccuracy or Indifference hath overlooked, your Interests would suffer infinitely less by the Precedent, than by a single Example of a Life spent in the Accumulation of Crores for your Benefit, and doomed in its Close to suffer the Extremity of private Want, and to sink in Obscurity.

I have thought it proper to complete the present Subject, by the Addition of a Charge which I intended to have submitted regularly to the Board, but which, if divided at this Time from the others, might have admitted an unfair Construction. It is in the Account N° 6, and consists of Charges incurred for Boats and Budgerows provided by me, for my own Use, on such public Occasions as require my Departure from the Presidency on extraordinary Services.

My Predecessors have always had an Establishment of this Kind provided for them, and my Successor will have a Provision devolve to him, superior in Convenience and in Elegance to any that I have yet seen, and furnished with a Cost which would not be credited by those who have seen the Subjects of it.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most obedient and

most faithful Servant,

WARREN HASTINGS.

*ABSTRACT of various Charges disbursed by the Governor-General, from 13th April 1772 to 1st January 1784, for the Service of the Honourable Company, not before carried to their Account.*

An Account of the Sums disbursed by the Governor General, for the Salary of Lieut. Colonel Gilbert Ironside, during the Period in which he acted as Military Secretary	8,511 7 6
An Account of Charges disbursed in the Office of the Governor General, from 1st September 1772 to 1st January 1784	1,49,870 11 9
An Account of Sums disbursed by the Governor General, for the Hire of Houses occupied by his Aides-de-Camp, from 1st December 1775 to 1st January 1784	33,323 8 8
An Account of Sums disbursed by the Governor General, for the Diet and other Charges of Pundits, employed in compiling the Code of Hindoo Laws—for the Salaries of Persons employed in translating Books of the Mahomedan Law, and other Charges incidental to the same—and for the Wages and other Expences of the Madrassa or Mahomedan Academy	87,357 11 9
An Account of Sums disbursed for Budgerows and Boats, for the Governor General's Use	59,156 5 9
Current Rupees	8,38,219 13 5

Fort William,

the 31st December 1783.

Errors excepted.

(Signed)

W<sup>m</sup> LARKINS,

Acting Att<sup>y</sup> for the  
Honourable Warren Hastings, Esq.

EXTRACT



*EXTRACT of General Letter to Bengal, dated 16 March 1784.*

Par. 47. We have considered the Letters from the Governor General, of the 20th January, 22d May, and 16th December 1782, relative to Presents, together with the Account which accompanied the Letter of the 22 May. Although it is not our Intention to express any Doubt of the Integrity of our Governor General, on the contrary, after having received the Presents, we cannot avoid expressing our Approbation of his Conduct, in bringing them to the Credit of the Company, yet we must confess the Statement of those Transactions appears to us in many Parts so unintelligible that we feel ourselves under the Necessity of calling on the Governor General for an Explanation, agreeable to his Promise voluntarily made to us. We therefore desire to be informed of the different Periods when each Sum was received, and what were the Governor General's Motives for withholding the several Receipts from the Knowledge of the Council, or of the Court of Directors; and what were his Reasons for taking Bonds for Part of these Sums, and for paying other Sums into the Treasury, as Deposits on his own Account.

*COPY of a Letter from Mr. Hastings to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, dated 17th January 1785, relative to his giving up and cancelling certain Bonds and Notes previous to his Resignation of the Government of Bengal.*

*EXTRACT of Bengal General Consultations, 17th January 1785.*

Read Letter from the Governor General as follows:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I herewith beg Leave to deliver up the Three Company's Interest Notes, alluded to in the following Extract of an Account which accompanied my Letter to the Honourable Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors, of 22d May 1782.

1780. The following Sums were paid into the Treasury, and Bonds granted for the same in the Name of the Governor General, in whose Possession the Bonds remain, with a Declaration upon Oath, indorsed and signed by him, that he has no Claim upon the Company for the Amount either of Principal or Interest, no Part of the latter having been received.

One Bond, dated 1st Oct 1780, N <sup>o</sup> 1539	-	-	1,16,000
One - - - 2d - - - N <sup>o</sup> 1540	-	-	1,16,000
One - - - 23d Nov - - N <sup>o</sup> 1354	-	-	1,74,000
			<hr/> 4,06,000

And am to request that the Honourable Board will be pleased to direct the Accountant General to transfer the same from my Credit upon the Honourable Company's Interest Books to the Company's, which will be a Reduction of Current Rupees 5,42,003. 8. 9. in the Amount of the Principal and Interest of the Bonded Debt of this Presidency on 31st Ult<sup>o</sup>.

I am also to request that the Accountant General may be directed to transfer the Sum of C<sup>t</sup> R<sup>s</sup> 2,38,715. 2. 3. which now stands to my Credit upon the Deposit Books, to the Company's; the same being the Amount of the Second Article of the Account before adverted to: Which will consequently reduce the Amount which now appears due from the General Treasury for Deposits.

In closing this Address, I have but to assure the Honourable Board, that the Honourable Company have had Credit for every other Article and Sum contained in the Account before mentioned.

Fort William,  
21<sup>st</sup> January 1785.

I have the Honour to be, &c.  
(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

The above-mentioned Notes being cancelled;  
Ordered, That Notice thereof be given to the Accountant General, that he may carry the Amount of them to the Company's Credit.



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*EXTRACT of General Letter from Bengal, dated 31 January 1785.*

Par. 9. We have received a Letter from the Governor General, Copy of which we transmit you a Number in the Packet; wherein he delivers up and cancels, in the Presence of the Board, the Three Company's Interest Notes, alluded to in the Extract of an Account which accompanied his Letter to your Honourable Secret Committee, dated 22 May 1782; amounting in all, Principal and Interest, to Current Rupees 5,42,003. 8. 9. This Sum has, in Conformity to the Governor General's Desire, been transferred from his Credit upon your Interest Books, to the Company's; and thereby causes a Reduction of the above Sum, in the Amount of the Bond Debt of this Government.

10. The Governor General at the same Time desired, That the Sum of Current Rupees 38,715. 2. 3. which stood to his Credit in the Deposit Books, might be transferred to the Company's; being the Amount of the Second Article in the Account above adverted to; which of course reduce the Amount in that Sum of what appears due from the General Treasury on Account Deposits.

*William Devoynes, Esquire, Chairman of the Honourable the Court of Directors.*

Sir,

The Honourable Court of Directors, in their General Letter to Bengal, by the Surprize, dated the 5th March 1784, were pleased to express their Desire that I should inform them of the Periods when each Sum of the Presents, mentioned in my Address of the 22d May 1782, was received, what were my Motives for with-holding the several Receipts from the Knowledge of the Council, or the Court of Directors, and what were my Reasons for taking Bonds for Part of these Sums, and for paying other Sums into the Treasury as Deposits on my own Account.

I have been kindly apprized, that the Information required as above is yet expected from me. I hope that the Circumstances of my past Situation, when considered, will plead my Excuse for having as long with-held it. The Fact is, that I was not at the Presidency when the Surprize arrived; and when I returned to it, my Time and Attention were so entirely engrossed, to the Day of my final Departure from it, by a Variety of other more important Occupations, of which, Sir, I may safely appeal your Testimony, grounded on the large Portion contributed by myself of the Volumes which compose our Consultations of that Period, that the Submission which my Respect would have enjoined me to pay to the Command imposed on me, was lost to my Recollection, perhaps from the stronger Impression, which the First and distant Perusal of it had left on my Mind, that it was rather intended as a prebension for something which had given Offence in my Report of the original Transaction, than expressive of any Want of a further Elucidation of it.

I will now endeavour to reply to the different Questions which have been stated to me, in as explicit manner as I am able. To such Information as I can give, the Honourable Court is fully entitled, where that shall prove defective, I will point out the easy Means by which it may be rendered complete.

First, I believe I can affirm with Certainty, that the several Sums mentioned in the Account transmitted with my Letter above mentioned, were received at or within a very few Days of the Dates which are prefixed to them in the Account; but as this contains only the gross Sums, and each of them was received in different Payments, though at no great Distance of Time, I cannot therefore afford a greater Degree of Accuracy to the Account. Perhaps the Honourable Court will judge this sufficient for any Purpose to which their Enquiry was directed; but if it should not be so, I will beg leave to refer, for a more minute Information, and for the Means of making any Investigation which they may think it proper to direct, respecting the Particulars of this Transaction, to Mr. Larkins, your Assistant General, who was privy to every Process of it, and possesses, as I believe, the original Receipt, which contained the only Account that I ever kept of it. In this each Receipt was, as I recollect, specifically inserted, with the Name of the Person by whom it was made; and I shall write to him to desire that he will furnish you with the Paper itself, if it is still in being, and in his Hands, or whatever he can distinctly recollect concerning it.

As to my Motives for with-holding the several Receipts from the Knowledge of the Council, or of the Court of Directors, and for taking Bonds for Part of these Sums, and paying others into the Treasury as Deposits on my own Account, I have generally accounted in my Letter to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the 22d May 1782; namely, that "I either chose to conceal the first Receipts from public Curiosity, by receiving Bonds for the Amount, or possibly acted without any studied Design, which my Memory, at that Distance of Time, could verify; and that I do not think it worth my Care to observe the same Means with the rest."—It will not be expected that I should be able to give a more correct Explanation of my Intentions, after a Lapse of Three Years, having declared at the Time that many Particulars had escaped my Remembrance; neither shall

26th 13



shall I attempt to add more than the clearer Affirmation of the Facts implied in that Report of them, and such Inferences as necessarily, or with a strong Probability, follow them. I have said that the Three first Sums of the Account were paid into the Company's Treasury without passing through my Hands: The Second of these was forced into Notice by its Destination and Application to the Expence of a Detachment, which was formed and employed against Madéje Scindia, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Camac, as I particularly apprised the Court of Directors, in my Letter of the 29th November 1780: The other Two were certainly not intended, when I received them, to be made public, though intended for public Service, and actually applied to it. The Emergencies of the Government were at that Time my own, and every Pressure upon it rested with its full Weight upon my Mind. Wherever I could find allowable Means of relieving those Wants, I eagerly seized them; but neither could it occur to me as necessary to state on our Proceedings every little Aid which I could thus procure, nor do I know how I could have stated it, without appearing to court Favour by an Ostentation which I disdained, nor without the Chance of exciting the Jealousy of my Colleagues, by the constructive Assertion of a separate and unparticipated Merit, derived from the Influence of my Station, to which they might have laid an equal Claim. I should have deemed it particularly dishonourable, to receive for my own Use, Money tendered by Men of a certain Class, from whom I had interdicted the Receipt of Presents to my Inferiors, and bound them by Oath not to receive them. I was therefore more than ordinarily cautious to avoid the Suspicion of it, which would scarcely have failed to light upon me, had I suffered the Money to be brought directly to my own House, or to that of any Person known to be in Trust for me; for these Reasons I caused it to be transported immediately to the Treasury. There, you well know, Sir, it could not be received without being passed to some Credit, and this could only be done by entering it as a Loan, or as a Deposit; the first was the least liable to Reflection, and therefore I had obviously Recourse to it. Why the Second Sum was entered as a Deposit, I am utterly ignorant; possibly it was done without any special Direction from me; possibly because it was the simplest Mode of Entry, and therefore preferred, as the Transaction itself did not require Concealment, having been already avowed.

Although I am firmly persuaded that these were my Sentiments on the Occasion, yet I will not affirm that they were. Though I feel their Impression as the Remains of a Series of Thoughts retained in my Memory, I am not certain that they may not have been produced by subsequent Reflection on the principal Fact, combining with it the probable Motives of it. Of this I am certain, that it was my Design originally to have concealed the Receipt of all the Sums, except the Second, even from the Knowledge of the Court of Directors. They had answered my Purpose of public Utility, and I almost totally dismissed them from my Remembrance. But when Fortune threw a Sum in my Way of a Magnitude which could not be concealed, and the peculiar Delicacy of my Situation, at the Time in which I received it, made me more circumspect of Appearances, I chose to apprise my Employers of it; which I did hastily and generally; hastily, perhaps to prevent the Vigilance and Activity of secret Calumny; and generally, because I knew not the exact Amount of the Sum of which I was the Receipt, but not in the full Possession: I promised to acquaint them with the Result as soon as I should be in Possession of it, and in the Performance of my Promise I thought it consistent with me to add to the Account all the former Appropriations of the same Kind; my good Genius then suggesting to me, with a Spirit of Caution, which might have spared me the Trouble of this Apology, I universally attended to it, that if I had suppressed them, and they were afterwards known, I might be asked, what were my Motives for withholding Part of these Receipts from the Knowledge of the Court of Directors, and informing them of the rest.

It being my Wish to clear up every Doubt upon this Transaction, which either my own Mind suggested, or which may have been suggested by others, I beg Leave to suppose another Question, to state the Terms of it in my Reply; by informing you, that the Indorsement on the Bonds was made about the Period of my leaving the Presidency, in the Middle of the Year 1781, in order to guard against their becoming a Claim on the Company, as Part of my Estate, in the Event of my Death occurring in the Course of the Service on which I was then entering.

This, Sir, is the plain History of the Transaction. I should be ashamed to request that you would communicate it to the Honourable Court of Directors, whose Time is too valuable for the Introduction of a Subject so uninteresting, but that it is become a Point of indispensable Duty. I must therefore request the Favour of you to lay it, at a convenient Time, before them. In addressing it to you personally I yield to my own Feelings of the Respect which is due to them as a Body, and to the assurances which I derive from your experienced Civilities, that you will kindly overlook the Trouble imposed by it.

I have the Honour to be,

Sir,

Your very humble and

Most obedient Servant,

(Signed)

WARREN HASTING

Cheltenham,

11 July 1785.



OPR of a Letter from W<sup>m</sup> Laskins, Esquire, Accountant General in Bengal, to the Chairman of the East India Company, dated 5th August 1786.

# D U P L I C A T E.

To William Devaynes, Esquire, Chairman, or to the Chairman for the Time being, of the Honourable the Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Sir,

Par. 1. In Conformity to the Directions which I had the Honour to receive by the Talbot, on the 28th April 1786, from my much-respected Friend Mr. Hastings, dated Cheltenham, 18th July 1785, I have the Honour to transmit you Copies of the Papers, which I kept as Memorandums of the Particulars of the Dates on which the Sums contained in Mr. Hastings's Account of 22d May 1782 were received.

2. Should it ever be required of me to authenticate the Veracity of these Copies, upon Oath, I shall at all Times be ready to afford that Solemnity to the Fidelity with which they have been made; but it cannot be expected that I should at present, by voluntarily making this serious Appeal to the Omniscient, incur the Suspicion of wantonly prostituting such solemn Assurances with Indifference; which is an Idea that would most probably be encouraged by those who were pleased to insinuate, in the Eleventh Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, that because there were other Modes, by which the Necessity of that which I did take on 16th December 1782, which accompanied Mr. Hastings's Letter of that Date, might have been precluded, yet, as these were not taken, my Affidavit merited little Credit, in the Estimation of Mankind.—And, that the Justice of this Insinuation may no longer be inferred, from my not having explained the Circumstances which, as I thought, rendered that Affidavit necessary, I shall now state them with the utmost Fidelity.

3. Mr. Hastings returned from Benares to Calcutta on 5th February 1782: At that Time I was wholly ignorant of the Letter which, on 20th January, he wrote from Patna, to the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors: the rough Draft of this Letter, in the Hand Writing of Major Palmer, is now in my Possession. Soon after his Arrival at the Presidency, he requested me to form the Account of his Receipts and Disbursements, which you will find Journalized in the 280th, &c. and 307th Pages of the Honourable Company's General Books of the Year 1781-2. My Official Situation, as Accountant General, had previously convinced me, that Mr. Hastings could not have made the Issues, which were acknowledged as received from him, by the Accounts of some of the Paymasters to the Army, unless he had obtained some such Supply as that which he afterwards, viz. on the 22d May 1782, made known to me; when I immediately suggested to him the Necessity of his transmitting that Account which accompanied his Letter of that Date; till when, the Promise contained in his Letter of 20th January had entirely escaped his Recollection.—The Particulars of the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 1 were read over to me, from a Bengal Paper, by his Banyan Cauntoo Baboo; and, if I am not mistaken, the Three First Lines of that N<sup>o</sup> 2, were read over to me, from a Persian Paper, by his Moonshy. The Translation of these Particulars, made by me, was, as I verily believe, the First complete Memorandum that he ever possessed of them, in the English Language; and I am confident, that if I had not suggested to him the Necessity of his taking this Precaution, he would, at this Moment, have been unable to have afforded any such Information concerning them.

4. The rough Draft of this Letter and Account having been made by Mr. Hastings, in my Presence, at his Garden House at Alleypore, I wrote the fair Copies of them. After these were signed by him, they were put into a Cover, directed by me, which he sealed up.—I then took the Letter with me into Town, for the Purpose of being delivered to the Secretary, when the Close of the Lively's Packet might be near at Hand, not deeming it eligible to deliver it before, as I had known Instances of Letters that were delivered to the Secretaries any Length of Time before the Departure of a Packet, escape their Recollection at the Close thereof.

5. On 21st August 1782, I was taken alarmingly ill, and when I was sufficiently recovered to be put into a Budgerow for the Change of Air, apprehensive that the Packet might be closed ere I returned to the Presidency, I sent the Letter by my Jemautdar, with a verbal Message to Mr. Secretary Auriol, requesting that he would take Care that it was put into the Lively's Packet; but Mr. Auriol not knowing that it was a Letter from the Governor General, declined taking Charge of it for this Purpose, alledging that it was repugnant to the Standing Regulation of the Service, for any Servant to correspond with the Court of Directors, but through the Governor General and Council. I was at this Time unable to write, and not having then any Person about me, who could have wrote what I dictated, I sent the Letter by my Jemautdar to Mr. George Nesbitt Thompson, Mr. Hastings's Private Secretary, with the same Request as that by which it had been tendered to Mr. Auriol; I returned to Calcutta on 13th December 1782, and immediately suggested to Mr. Hastings the Necessity of his accompanying this Letter with the Affidavit which I took before Mr. Justice Hyde, and a Letter explanatory of the Apprehensions which suggested this Precaution.

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6. Upon

26<sup>th</sup> 18



6. Upon referring to the List of Packet sent by the Resolution, it will be found to have been dated on 9th May 1782: And although the Public Department Proceedings of the 30th May will be found to state, that the Commander reported, in a Letter dated 26th of that Month, that his Dispatches had been delivered to him, but that he could not proceed to Sea until he had re-placed the Anchors and Cables which he had lost, there will not, I believe, be found any Letter or Paper, transmitted either to the Honourable Court, or to their Secretary, either by the Governor General and Council, or by either of their Secretaries, of a later Date than that of 9th May 1782, when I had not been made acquainted with the Transaction alluded to in Mr. Hastings's Letter of 20th January 1782: And although the Statement of 22d May 1782 might have been deemed in 1783 "a new Discovery," yet it will appear, that the Second Article of it had been communicated to the Secret Committee of the Honourable Court of Directors on 29th November 1780, and that the last Article of that Statement had been reported to them on 20th January 1782. The First of these Dates will, I believe, be found prior to the Institution of any Parliamentary Enquiry into the Transactions of the Governor General and Council, and the last of them will also be found to be prior to any of the Resolutions of the House of Commons that were passed, which affected Mr. Hastings; and it cannot require an Argument to prove, that it was not possible for him to have known in Bengal, what had not passed in England a Month, when I recommended the Formation of that Account and Letter which were wrote on 22d May 1782, when we had every Reason to suppose that the Resolution had taken her Departure; but had it been known that there was an Opportunity of writing by her, yet, as that Ship was so badly manned, she was not likely, at so unfavourable a Season of the Year, to make any other than a very tedious Passage; and as we were then in daily Expectation of the Maratta Treaty arriving from Mr. Anderson, when it was intended to dispatch a Packet to England, I certainly should not have advised Mr. Hastings to transmit any such Papers by her, unless I could have foreseen that Necessity, which did not occur until after the Resolutions of the House of Commons of 15th April 1782 had become known in Bengal, when the Affidavit became necessary; but which could not have been the Case, had the Letter of 22d May 1782 been previously transmitted, either by the Resolution or by any other Conveyance; since it could not have been required to prove, what had already been established.

7. While Mr. Hastings filled the Station of Governor General, I had too much Reason to apprehend that any Explanation which I could have given of these Circumstances, whatever might have been the Solemnity of the Assurances under which they could have been given, would have been attributed to the most abandoned, as well as the most selfish Motives; and it is only upon the Confidence which I deem myself entitled to place upon the Estimation in which my Character has hitherto been held, during the Fourteen Years that I have had the Honour to serve the Honourable Company, Nine of which have been passed in executing the Duties of one of the most important Offices under this Government, that I can venture to incur the Suspicion of having sacrificed the Duty which I owe to my Honourable Employers, and to my own Character, to Motives of Gratitude for One who was my Patron, by attempting to refute the implicated Reflections that affect my Character, in the Fifth Page of the Eleventh Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons.

8. I shall now proceed to state the Explanations which are required to elucidate the Correspondence between the Papers N<sup>o</sup> 1 and 2, which accompany this Address, and Mr. Hastings's Account of 22d May 1782.

26<sup>th</sup> 15  
9. Although the two first stated Sums are, in the Paper marked N<sup>o</sup> 1, asserted to have been paid to Mr. Croftes in 18th and 19th April 1787, which corresponds with the 1st and 2d November 1780; yet the Copy of the Bengal running Treasury Account, which is now in England, will not be found to contain any such Sums as received from Mr. Hastings under these Dates; because these, together with another Sum of Sicca Rupees One Lack, which were taken from his own Cash at that Time, made up the first Supply that was sent to the Maratta Army under Chimnaje Boosla; which the Sub-Treasurer could not bring to Account, until he was authorized by an express Order of Council upon the Treasury for that Purpose, which was not granted until 5th January 1781; after which, viz. on 15th of that Month, the Head of Secret Service was debited for the Amount of that Supply, and the Head of Money borrowed at Interest 1780 credited for these Sums, for which the Bonds N<sup>o</sup> 1539, dated 1st October 1780, and N<sup>o</sup> 1540, dated 2d October 1780, each for the Sum of Current Rupees 1,16,000, or Siccas One Lack, were granted. The Remainder of that Amount was carried to the Credit of the Head of Four per Cent. Remittance Loan; Mr. Hastings having taken a Bond, N<sup>o</sup> 89, which has been since completely liquidated conformable to the Terms of that Loan.

10. The Third Sum contained in Mr. Hastings's Account, for which the Bond N<sup>o</sup> 1354, dated 23d November 1780, for Current Rupees 1,74,000, or Siccas 1,50,000, was granted, was for the Payment stated in the Paper, N<sup>o</sup> 1, to have been made to Mr. Croftes on 11th August 1787, which corresponds with 23d November 1780.

abn<sup>o</sup> 14  
11. The Fourth Sum stated in Mr. Hastings's Account was the Produce of sundry Payments made to me by Sadamund, Cheyte Sing's Buxey, who either brought or sent the Gold Mohurs to my House, from whence they were taken by me to Mr. Croftes's, either on the same Night or early in the Morning after; they were made at different Times, and I well remember that the same People never came twice.

12. On 21st June 1780 Mr. Hastings sent for me, and desired that I would take Charge of a Present that had been offered to him by Cheyte Sing's Buxey, under the Plea of atoning for the Opposition



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Opposition which he had made towards the Payment of the Extra Subsidy for defraying Part of the Expences of the War; but really in the Hope of its inducing Mr. Hastings to give up that Claim, with which View the Present had first been offered. Mr. Hastings declared, that although he would not take this for his own Use, he would apply it to that of the Company, in removing Mr. Francis's Objections to the Want of a Fund for defraying the extra Expences of Colonel Camac's Detachment.

13. On my Return to the Office, I wrote down the Substance of what Mr. Hastings had said to me, and requested Mr. James Miller, [my Deputy, to seal it up with his own Seal, and write upon it that he had then done so at my Request. He was no further informed of my Motive for this, than merely that it contained the Substance of a Conversation which had passed between me and another Gentleman, which, in case that Conversation should hereafter become the Subject of Enquiry, I wished to be able to adduce the Memorandum then made of it, in Corroboration of my own Testimony; and, although that Paper has remained unopened to this Hour, and notwithstanding that I kept no Memorandum whatever of the Substance thereof, yet, as I have wrote this Representation under the most scrupulous Adherence to what I conceive to be Truth, should it ever become necessary to refer to this Paper, I am confident that it will not be found to differ materially from the Substance of this Representation.

14. As this Present passed through my Hands, called upon as I was by the Person for whom it was destined, and who requested me to receive it for the Purpose of being applied to the Honourable Company's Use, I conceived it was incumbent upon me to relate circumstantially the Part which I had taken in the Transaction.

15. The Fifth Sum mentioned in Mr. Hastings's Account, is the Amount of the Payments stated by the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 1 to have been made to Mr. Croftes on 15 and 16 Bysack 1188, and will be found credited for, in the Copy of the Bengal running Treasury Account, now in England, under 26th April 1781, which corresponds with 16 Bysack 1188; and, as it will be found to have been mostly made in Silver, it must have taken up more than one Day to count, as the Soucars at the Treasury seldom can count more than one Lack of Sicca Rupees in one Day; of course the whole Payment was brought to Account on the Date on which it was completely made.

16. The Sixth Sum stated in Mr. Hastings's Account appears, by the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 2, to have been received of Nundoolol, and may, I should suppose, be considered as a Part of the Balance of the Peshcush of Dinagepore, which is stated, in the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 1, at Siccas 1,00,000, which would consequently become reduced to 50,000—but this was an Alteration which I did not chuse to make, that I might be enabled at all Times to swear that these Papers have continued in their Original State.

17. The Dates on which this Payment was made to Mr. Hastings, as well as those made in Part of the Produce of the Presents enumerated in the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 2, are stated the same in the 280th and 281st Pages of the Honourable Company's General Journal of 1781-2, as they are brought to Account in Mr. Hastings's private Books; but as neither of the other Sums passed through his Hands, these contained no such Specification, and consequently could not enable him to afford the Information with which he has requested me to furnish you; and it is more than probable, that if the Affidavit which I took on the 16th December 1782, had not exposed my Character to the Suspicion of my being capable of committing one of the basest Trespasses upon the Confidence of Mankind, I should, at this Distance of Time, have been equally unable to have complied with his Request; but after I became acquainted with the Insinuation suggested in the Eleventh Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, I thought it but too probable, that, unless I were possessed of the Original Memorandums which I had made of these Transactions at the Time when I became acquainted with them, I might at some distant Period be unable to prove that I had not descended to commit so base an Action.—I have, therefore, always most carefully preserved every Paper which I possessed regarding these Transactions.

18. Although Mr. Hastings was extremely dissatisfied with the Excuses which Gunga Govind Sing assigned for not paying Mr. Croftes the Sums stated by the Paper N<sup>o</sup> 1 to be in his Charge, he never could obtain from him any further Payments on this Account.

19. Conscious that the Concern which I have had in these Transactions needs neither an Apology nor an Excuse, and that I have in no Action of my Life sacrificed the Duty of Fidelity which I owed to my Honourable Employers, either to the Regard which I felt for another, or to the Advancement of my own Fortune, I shall conclude this Address, firmly relying upon the Candour of those before whom it may be submitted, for its being deemed a satisfactory as well as a circumstantial Compliance with the Requisition in Conformity to which the Information it affords has been furnished, without which it would have been as base as dishonourable for me spontaneously to have afforded it; for though the Duty which every Man owes to himself should render him incapable of making an Assertion not strictly true, no Man actuated either by virtuous or honourable Sentiments could mistakenly apprehend, that unless he betrayed the Confidence reposed in him by another, he might be deemed deficient in Fidelity to his Employers.

I have the Honour to be, with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

(Signed)

W<sup>m</sup> LARKINS.

Calcutta,  
5th August 1786.

N<sup>o</sup> 1;



N<sup>o</sup> 1. DUPLICATE.

COPY of the Particulars of the Dates on which the component Parts of sundry Sums included in the "Account of the  
"received on the Account of the Honourable Company by the Governor General, or paid to their Treasury by his Order, and applied to  
"Service," were received for Mr. Hastings, and paid to the Sub-Treasurer.

## DINAGEPORE.

From 29 to 31	Sanwun 1186, or	89,999		
17 to 21	Bhauden	49,974		
1 to 5	Asin	27,000		
8	Boofe	25,000		
10		15,000		
27		10,000		
29	Maug	20,000		
2	Faugun	20,000		
4		9,000		
12		1,000		
9	Saurvum	40,000		
	18 and 19 Affin paid Mr. Croftes		3,06,973	
			2,00,000	
	Remains		1,06,973	
	Charges		9,310	
	Balance in Charge of G. G. S.			97,663
<b>PATNA:</b>				
12	Chaita	15,000		
18		10,000		
22		60,000		
23		5,000		
23		10,001		
28th		60,000		
	Carried over	1,60,001		97,663

Kellbran

ab W. 13



[ 17 ]

	Brought over	—	—	—	97,663
	Patna brought over	—	—	1,60,001	
10	Byfack	—	—	10,000	
10	—	—	—	26,000	
14	—	—	—	20,000	
14	—	—	—	4,000	
2	Affin	—	—	1,800	
	15 and 16 Byfack paid Mr. Croftes	—	—	2,21,801	
		—	—	2,00,000	
	Balance	—	—	21,801	

Hobbs

	N U D D E A.	—	—	—	
15	Cawtic 1187, or	—	—	16,001	
27	—	—	—	20,000	
28	—	—	—	20,000	
30	—	—	—	10,000	
4	Augun	—	—	7,749	
7	—	—	—	5,000	5,000 too much
9	—	—	—	25,000	
	No Date	—	—	1,250	
24	Augun	—	—	15,000	
17	Poofo	—	—	15,000	
22	—	—	—	20,000	
	11 Augun paid to Mr. Croftes	—	—	1,50,000	
		—	—	1,50,000	

Paid to Mr. Croftes

19	Affin	—	2,00,000	
16	Byfack	—	2,00,000	
11	Augun	—	1,50,000	
		—	5,50,000	

Memorandum of the Cabooliats attended to in the above.

	Cabooliats.	Received.	Balance.
Dinagore Peishcush	4,00,000	3,00,000	1,00,000
Nuddea	1,50,000	1,50,000	
Patna	4,00,000	2,00,000	2,00,000

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) W<sup>M</sup> LARKINS.

5th August 1786.

N<sup>o</sup> 2.



N<sup>o</sup> 2. DUPLICATE.

*COPY of the Particulars of the Presents taken from the Nabob Vizier and his Ministers, and from Nundoo Delol, carried to the Honourable Company's Credit, in the Account of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Governor General, during his Absence from the Presidency, on a Visit to the Northern Provinces, and included in Mr. Hastings's Account of 22d May 1782.*

From the Nabob to the Governor General	6,00,000			
Huffein Zeza Cawn, and Hyder Beg Cawn,				
to Ditto	3,50,000			
Ditto and Ditto, to Mrs. Hastings	1,00,000			
Lucknow Siccas	10,50,000			
Hoondeawun deducted	1,25,205	13	6	
Lucknow Siccas			9,24,794	2 6
Received in the following Species:				
Calcutta Siccas	2,76,573	12		
Patna Sunwants	4,12,528	11		
Moorshedabad Bazar Chillawn	43,383	15	6	
Lucknow Siccas	1,92,307	12		
			9,24,794	2 6
Converted into Benares Siccas, valued at 12 per Cent. + C <sup>a</sup>				
2,76,573 12				
32,975				38,251
2,43,598 12	+	3 9 3	1 p <sup>a</sup>	
4,12,528 11	+	- 8		
43,383 15 6	+	1 12		
1,92,307 12	-	9 2 6		
Benares Siccas			8,85,735	12 6
Batta 12 per %			1,06,288	4 9
				9,92,024 1
			Current Rupees	10,30,275 1
From Nundoo Delol				58,000
			Current Rupees	10,88,275 1

A true Copy.

(Signed)

W<sup>m</sup> LARKINS.

5th August 1786.



LETTERS and PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

PRESENTS received by WARREN Hastings  
Esquire

1787.



*Bm*

LETTERS and PAPER

RELATIVE TO

PRESENTS received by WARREN HARRIS  
Esquire.

1787.